

County road budget: grim picture

By Suzie Rollins Singer
staff writer

The Oakland County Road Commission didn't have any opposition to its proposed \$37.6 million 1983 budget because not one resident bothered attending.

Only five members Oakland municipalities turned out to discuss their interests in the budget.

Richard Beaubien, transportation engineer in Troy, was the sole supporter of the road commission's \$11.8 million construction program, of which only \$382,000 is road commission money.

The remaining revenue comes from special assessments and local governments. Beaubien's backing stems from the road commission's commitment to allow Troy to proceed with construction on county roads and pay the tab.

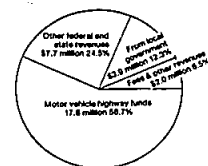
"We really support the construction program," Beaubien said. "We thank you for your continuous support for the Big Beaver widening project from Livernois to Dequindre and for the Maple widening from Dequindre to John R. E. We hope we can schedule soon a new bridge on Long Lake near Coolidge."

Thomas Blaszczak, director of public services in Farmington Hills, expressed concern about the road commission's refusal to resurface streets.

FARMINGTON HILLS has a lot of county roads. And we have a great deal of concern about the lack of the bituminous resurfacing program. It's a cost-effective point to put down a surface rather than let it deteriorate. We would like to reconsider the program," Blaszczak said.

In Walled Lake, intersection repairs are still a top priority that was requested last year but never completed, said John Nall, the city's superintendent of public works.

Oakland County Road Commission source of 1983 budgeted revenue



"We've asked that intersection work be done at Decker Road and Maple. During rush hour, Pontiac Trail is backed up to Maple, and we need the work done," he said.

A representative from Novi also requested intersection work at 10 Mile and Novi roads.

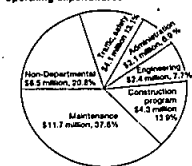
"We also need some resurfacing on 10 Mile between Haggerty and Novi that has deteriorated to the point that it's not safe to travel on," said Robert Shaw, of Novi's public works department.

Road Commission board members said they would take the requests under advisement.

However, after listening to Managing Director John Grubba's speech, some representatives of the municipalities said they doubted much would be done with their requests other than being put on public record.

GRUBBA SAID the proposed balanced budget contains \$1 million in revenues, a decrease of 1 percent from 1982. Revenue from state-collected gasoline and weight taxes is projected to decrease \$474,000 from the \$18.2 million in 1982.

Oakland County Road Commission 1983 budgeted expenditures for construction program and for operating expenditures



Revenues from the Michigan Department of Transportation increased by \$450,000, Grubba said.

A big chunk of revenues (\$7.9 million) will come from special assessments, which will make it unnecessary to cut 19 engineering staff positions that were scheduled to be cut last spring.

"The proposed budget provides for continuing all but two currently unfilled positions, for continuing salaries and wages at their current levels, which are actually 1981 freeze levels, through 1983," Grubba said.

Dennis Grylcki, county highway engineer, didn't have much good news to report at Monday's meeting.

"The cutback in construction will be most evident in the resurfacing program, where much of the cost is normally paid from road commission funds. Deteriorating roads will worsen, and maintenance needs will increase," he said.

"A recent study undertaken by the road commission revealed that \$108 million is needed in 1983 to restore the quality of the Oakland County road system. By 1984, there will be a need for \$133 million," Grylcki added.

ONLY ONE roadway will be widened in 1983 with any road commission money. Orchard Lake Road — from Will-O-Way Drive to Maple in West Bloomfield is in the program. It will be reconstructed from a two-lane roadway to five lanes, completing the widening project from I-696 in Farmington Hills all the way north to Pontiac Trail. The \$2 million project will be financed with 75 percent federal financing. The remaining 25 percent will be split equally between the road commission and West Bloomfield.

Another proposed project for 1983 is the replacement of a bridge on Lahser, south of 10 Mile in Southfield. Special federal and state bridge aid will pay 90 percent of the costs to replace the bridge.

WINTER WALDEN SKI CLUB

teaching KIDS to SKI

is OUR BUSINESS
855-1075

SATURDAY & SUNDAY PROGRAMS

WINTER WALDEN SKI CLUB

le mut de Cartier
INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

Join us for a special Cartier Exhibition. A Cartier representative will be available to assist you with a purchase from our exclusive collection of 18k gold strap watches and elegant jeweled watches for men and women. The antique exhibition includes clocks, watches and objects de vertu from the collection of Cartier Paris, London and New York.

SOMERSET MALL
NOVEMBER 18 & 19

CHARLES W. WARREN
JEWELERS SINCE 1888

SOMERSET MALL, 603111

GRAND OPENING

You are invited to visit your community photographers ALL WEDDING & PORTRAITS

Booked by Dec. 31, 1982 will receive

10% DISCOUNT ON PHOTOGRAPHY

- invitations at discounts
- wedding consultant

HOURS:
Tues.-Sat. 10-5
Evenings by appointment

Birmingham Photographers 540-6922

325 S. Woodward • Birmingham, MI 48011 • East Entrance

Look What \$17⁹⁵ Will Buy

at
Hack's Kidpower Shoes

- Canvas Nikes
- and selected styles from:
- Capezio Dress Shoes
- Bass Sport Shoes
- Jumping Jacks
- Child Life School Shoes

Hack's KID POWER Shoe World

West Bloomfield Plaza
6734 Orchard Lake Rd.
626-7790

Now Christmas is Come Sing Care Away
Colony Craftsmen Present
Christmas in Colonial America

November 20 and 21 1982
10-9 P.M. Saturday
11-6 P.M. Sunday
★ location ★
Lucas Co. Recreation Center II
Maumee, Ohio
Exit 4 Ohio Turnpike

COSTUMED CRAFTSMAN
MUSIC-PUPPETS-MAGIC
FT. MEIGS-WOLCOTT HOUSE

Celebrate Christmas in the 18th Century Manner.
ADMISSION
Adults.....\$2.00

THE BEST JUST GOT BETTER

BROOKS BROTHERS and LAURA ASHLEY

Join These Fine Shops at Somerset

Alexander Bongiorno/Alfred's Restaurant/Ann Taylor Ask Mr. Foster Travel Svcs./B. Dalton, Bookseller/Bally of Switzerland/Benno's French Cafe/Bonwit Teller Brooks Brothers/Capper & Capper/Charles W. Warren Chocolatissimo/Claire Pearone/Colony Interiors Continental Exclusives/Crown House of Gifts F.A.O. Schwarz-Toys/Fannie May Candies/Furs by Robert Gucci/Gullian's/Johnston & Murphy/Kitchen Glamor Laura Ashley/LeSportsac/Linda Dresner/Lingerie Mackenzie's/Magic Pan Creperie/Mark Cross McBryde's Footwear/Nino-Hairdresser/Optical Fashions Page Boy-Maternity/Rainbow Lollipop/Redden & Rawlinson Shoes/Rodier-Paris/Roz & Sherm Saks Fifth Avenue/Schettler's Drugs/Sherman Shoes Standard Federal S&L/Tennis Lady/The Man Shop

Just One Fine Shop After Another

SOMERSET MALL

Big Beaver Road at Coolidge, Troy

Sunday 12-5 / Monday, Thursday, Friday 10-9 / Other days 10-6.

Surprise someone far away with La Cookies from Hudson's

We'll mail this 1 1/2 lb. special reusable tin anywhere in the Continental United States, so they can enjoy these delicious treats that smack of "home." Choose from 5 varieties: chocolate chunk, praline, oatmeal/raisin, peanut butter and walnut, or you can choose a variety pack. \$15. includes delivery. Hudson's La Cookie, at Northland and Eastland.

HUDSON'S
your christmas world

ORDER BY PHONE: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In Metro Detroit, call 565-2454. Elsewhere, order tollfree 1-800-233-2000.